

FLD 333

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

25X1

SECRET

COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/> 25X1
SUBJECT	1. Port of Riga 2. Airfields in the Riga Area	DATE DISTR.	28 October 1953
	25X1	NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	<input type="text"/> 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 25X1
1. the port of Riga (approximately N 56-57, E 24-06)
- 25X1 a part of a commercial harbor
- 25X1 on the west side of the Daugava River, about two miles from the mouth of the river. A railroad line which ran from Riga to the vicinity of the lighthouse at the entrance to the river was also observed on the west side of the river.
2. A military harbor was observed immediately beyond the commercial harbor on the Lielupe River, a tributary of the Daugava River. The majority of the ships were anchored near the Bolderaja railroad station. These ships included trawlers, torpedo cutters, submarine chasers, and five or eight submarines.
3. A large modern airfield was observed south of the Bolderaja railroad station near the town of Riga. The airfield measured approximately 2.5 kilometers by 3 kilometers; the longest side of the field extended parallel to the railroad line. Between 60 and 80 Soviet jet aircraft were observed on the field. No propeller-driven aircraft were observed. Many jet aircraft were observed flying over Riga in groups of three to five. (See Sketch).
4. Two airfields were located east of the Daugava River about eight to ten kilometers southeast of Riga. Soviet jet aircraft were observed on these fields, but there were no propeller-driven aircraft.
5. The part of Riga lying on the western side of the Daugava River had many pretentious villas, offices, shops, and schools. This section was occupied mainly by Soviet soldiers and their families. The eastern side of the city was occupied by Soviet and Latvian civilians. in estimating the size of the garrison at Riga, it was larger than the Warsaw garrison and was equipped with all types of weapons.

SECRET

25X1

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input type="checkbox"/>	AEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
-------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

25X1

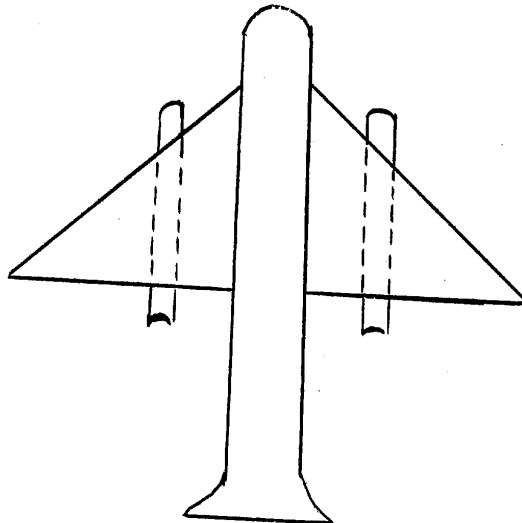
SECRET

25X1

-2-

6. [redacted] the eastern part of Riga was dirty, and [redacted] there were only a few shops, all of which were poorly stocked. Bread, meat, cakes, shoes, linen, and clothes were not observed in the shops, although there were queues in front of some of the meat shops. The only items that could be purchased for relatively low prices were brandy, poor grades of tobacco, and fish products which consisted primarily of dried fish. The Russian language was heard in the streets as often as Latvian. The people, even those who spoke Russian, were poorly dressed and appeared melancholy. They avoided speaking to foreign seamen; they would answer any queries as to the location of a particular street, but they would not engage in any other conversation. The movie houses carried advertisements written in both the Russian and Latvian languages, with the Russian text appearing first.
7. A Soviet inspection team consisting of fourteen men boarded informant's ship when it anchored. They ordered the entire crew, including the captain, to line up on the deck. The Soviets inspected all the documents of the crew and filled out personal history questionnaires on each seaman. A part of the inspection team took control of the ship itself. All of the cameras and field glasses had to be turned over to the inspection party during the ship's stay in Riga. In order for a seaman to get permission to go ashore, he had to get a special permit from the authorities which contained his name, the name of the ship, the number of his sailing book, and the time that he had to report back to the ship. The seaman's sailing book was retained by the authorities until the seaman returned to his ship and turned over his special permit to them. Although no body searches were conducted, everyone was asked whether he carried such items as cameras, letters, alcohol, pistols, tobacco, or stockings.

Sketch of Jet Aircraft Observed over Riga:



25X1

SECRET